Who are our students?

Their backgrounds:
Our students enter with a thesis-based Master’s degree in Psychology in hand from a program providing statistical training. They also have prior research experience, and have documented this (often in the form of an accepted Master’s thesis). Those who do not meet these criteria may be considered for conditional admission.

Their interests, placement, and scores:
Examples of recent students’ interests include self-perception, subjective well-being, stigma, entitlement, substance use, decision making, and more. Recent alumni have gone on to tenure-track psychology positions, prestigious post-docs, and research positions in health and corporate settings.

Master’s GPA and GRE (general) are used in the application process. For applicants whose native language is not English, TOEFL is also used. Average scores for our recent cohorts are 3.88 GPA, 153 GRE-Q, and 157 GRE-V.

Where can I learn more?
Visit the department web site at http://colfa.utsa.edu/psychology or UTSA’s graduate college at graduateschool.utsa.edu/programs/psychology-ph.d
**Coursework**

Please note that this is not a clinical psychology program. Students who complete the program will not be eligible for licensure.

**Core Courses (9 hours)**
- PSY 7003 Multivariate Statistics
- PSY 7013 Advanced Research Design
- PSY 7023 Military Health Psychology

**Advanced Seminar Topics (12 hours)**
- PSY 7103 Biopsychology
- PSY 7113 Clinical Psychology
- PSY 7123 Applied Social Psychology
- PSY 7133 Applied Cognitive Psychology
- PSY 7143 Diversity & Health Disparities

**Prescribed Electives (6 hours)**
- PSY 7203 Grant Development
- PSY 7213 Program Evaluation
- DEM 7233 Forecasting
- STAT 5413 Nonparametric Statistics
- STAT 5253 Time Series Analysis
- STAT 6113 Bayesian Statistics
- STAT 6853 Categorical Data Analysis

**Research and/or Internship (9 hours)**
- PSY 6513 Psychology Research Internship
- PSY 7911-6 Doctoral Research

**Dissertation Research (12 hours)**
- PSY 7921-6 Doctoral Dissertation

**Who are we and what do we do?**

**UTSA CORE FACULTY**
- Michael Baumann, Ph.D.
  » Information use and coordination in groups
  » Impression formation
- James H. Bray, Ph.D.
  » Family Psychology & Health
  » Adolescent Substance Abuse
- Thomas Coyle, Ph.D.
  » Cognitive aptitudes and aptitude testing
  » Brain aging & cerebral health markers
- Ephrem Fernandez, Ph.D.
  » Interaction of physical symptoms & affect
  » Assessment and treatment of anger
- Edward Golob, Ph.D.
  » Spatial cognition
  » Age-related neurological disorders
- Willie Hale, Ph.D.
  » PTSD, chronic pain, & sleep disorders in military personnel
- Monica Lawson, Ph.D.
  » Cognitive & socioemotional development
  » Child maltreatment
- Itamar Lerner, Ph.D.
  » Cognitive & computational neuroscience of memory & learning
  » Sleep and its effect on cognition & emotion
- Sandra Morissette, Ph.D.
  » Military health
  » Trauma, anxiety and addictive behaviors
- Augustine Osman, Ph.D.
  » Assessment of anxiety & mood disorders, suicide, pain, and eating disorders
- David Pillow, Ph.D.
  » Identity negotiation
  » Belongingness and authenticity
- Shelby B. Scott, Ph.D.
  » Couple & family psychology, health disparities, and LGBTQ populations
- Alicia Swan, Ph.D.
  » Functional outcomes after traumatic brain injury
- Rebecca Weston Ph.D.
  » Intimate partner violence
  » Quantitative methods
- Tina Zawacki Ph.D.
  » Alcohol's effects on risk appraisals
  » Health disparities in risk taking & victimization

**UT HEALTH CORE FACULTY**
- Donald D. McGeary, Ph.D., ABPP
  » Applied clinical research for chronic pain and comorbid trauma
  » Secondary analyses of large VA and DoD clinical datasets
- Alan Peterson, Ph.D., ABPP
  » PTSD, TBI, and sleep disorders in military personnel
  » Psychological resiliency
- Jennifer S. Potter, Ph.D., MPH
  » Opioid use disorder, chronic pain, and digital health
  » Dissemination and implementation science

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**What are we about?**

The goal of our program is simple: to train the next generation of researchers in advanced techniques that will allow them to conduct applied research with theoretical significance. To do this, we have designed a program delivering the kind of strong foundation in theory, methods, and statistical techniques for which psychology is known while incorporating training on how this foundation applies to health issues, the military, and military health.

Please note, this program is not meant to prepare treatment providers. We are about preparing people with interests in social, cognitive, biological, developmental, clinical, and other areas of psychology to do research with implications for health. Like NIH, we value both directly applied research and basic research with applied implications. Like many funding agencies, we think combining across these areas facilitates the creation of high quality research and increases the likelihood of scientific breakthroughs. The diversity of our faculty’s backgrounds and interests support this mission.

**What’s special about our program?**

Actually, a lot. More and more fields are recognizing the need for PhDs who can use the theory and methodology of Psychology to conduct applied research. More and more funding agencies are emphasizing these skills as well. We designed our program with that in mind. We expect our graduates to have the theory, methods, applied expertise, and communication skills necessary to bridge the gap between academia and applied settings. We expect them to be able to do both theoretical and applied research, and compete for both academic and applied positions.

As demonstrated in the range of interests listed in this brochure (see reverse side), we have drawn together faculty from a range of areas to ensure we can provide this mix of theory, statistics, and application.

**For more information:**

Email the PhD Graduate Advisor, Dr. Rebecca Weston, at Rebecca.Weston@utsa.edu